

December, 2013

School Programs Monthly Updates and Reminders

Dear Authorized Representative/Food Service Director: This information was emailed to the Authorized Representative and the Food Service Director. This email, the USDA memos and other documents are posted on the Bureau's web site at <https://www.educateiowa.gov/pk-12/nutrition-programs/quick-links-nutrition/monthly-memos-updates-schools>. Please contact your area consultant or me if you desire assistance.

Sincerely, Patti Harding, Administrative Consultant

Update:

Verification Collection Report – Submission due February 1, 2014

USDA requires all School Food Authorities (SFAs) to complete the Verification Collection Report. USDA developed a new reporting form to collect information related to the verification process. They are now requiring the SFA district/school/RCCI report in greater detail. The new form is now available on the CNP2000 system. Contact Deb Linderblood at Deb.Linderblood@iowa.gov or 515-281-5663 or Patti Harding at Patti.Harding@iowa.gov or 515-281-4754 for assistance.

Revenue From Non-Program Food

There were several questions concerning USDA Foods and if the value and other associated costs should be included when calculating nonprogram and program food costs. According to USDA, do not include the value or any costs associated with USDA Foods when completing the Revenue from Non-program Food Revenue Tool.

Farm to Cafeteria Conference Scholarship Application

The National Farm to School Network is offering scholarships to the 7th National Farm to Cafeteria Conference: Powering UP in Austin, Texas, on April 15-18, 2014. This conference will bring together a diverse group of stakeholders from across the farm to cafeteria* movement and provide four days of inspiring field trips, workshops, speakers and networking. Scholarships are due January 31, 2014. See the flyer posted with this notice.

*schools/universities/prisons/hospital/preschools

Reminder:

hawk-i/Medicaid Program - Sharing of Household Information - Submission due January 31, 2014. Public Local Education Agencies (LEAs) are required by Iowa Administrative Code (283A.2) to release to the Department of Human Services Healthy and Well Kids in Iowa (hawk-i/ Medicaid Program) household information for the students eligible for free or reduced price

meal benefits who have expressed interest in learning about hawk-i. Non-public LEAs are encouraged but not required to release household information. Reporting the names of parents/guardians who have requested an application is done in an on-line process at <http://www.hawk-i.org/>. Instructions are located in the Form Download section of the CNP 2000 system. Public LEAs with no names to report must file a report with no names. See attached memo for details. Contact Deb Linderblood at Deb.Linderblood@iowa.gov or 515-281-5663 for assistance.

USDA Memos:

The USDA memos listed below are posted on the Bureau web site. It is the SFAs responsibility to review the memo to ensure the SFA is operating within USDA regulations.

SP 10-2014 – Smoothies Offered in Child Nutrition Programs

SP 11-2014 – Effective Date of Free or Reduced Price Meal Eligibility

SP 13-2014 – School Food Service Account Revenue from the Sale of Non-program Foods

SP 45-2013 - Updated Offer versus Serve Guidance for the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program in School Year 2013-2014

SP 10-2014 – Smoothies Offered in Child Nutrition Programs

USDA provides guidance on offering smoothies. USDA allows milk contained in smoothies prepared in-house to be credited as milk for both breakfast and lunch. Also, smoothies made with yogurt may be credited as a meat/meat alternate for breakfast meal pattern only at this time.

SP 11-2014 – Effective Date of Free or Reduced Price Meal Eligibility

USDA now allows eligibility of free or reduced price meal applications to be effective on date of submission rather than the date the official approves it. This flexibility only applies to eligibility determinations made through the application process as well as when waiting for documentation of other source categorical eligibility (e.g., homeless or migrant children). At this time this does not apply to direct certification lists making it important to download the lists as soon as available. SFAs must have a method to document the date the application was submitted, such as a date stamp, and must refund any money paid by or on behalf of the child for a reimbursable meal or milk prior to the eligibility determination, including forgiving accrued debt. Review the attached memo for key information on how to submit revised claims. Please complete the attached “Iowa Eligibility Application Effective Date based on Submission Date Request” and email to patti.harding@iowa.gov.

SP 13-2014 – School Food Service Account Revenue from the Sale of Non-program Foods

USDA provides additional guidance on school food service account revenue and the sale of non-program foods. If a SFA purchases non-program foods using the school food service account, all revenue generated from the sale of the foods must accrue to the school food service account only, and is no longer allowed to benefit student organizations or school programs unless all additional costs to the food service program are covered. The memo describes in detail the process to follow if school food service account is going to purchase the food on behalf of a student organization. In Iowa, it is recommended that the purchase of food for other school organizations not be run through the school food service account and the student organizations purchase food and supplies directly from the food vendor if possible.

SP 45-2013 - Updated Offer versus Serve Guidance for the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program in School Year 2013-2014

Offer versus Serve (OVS) is a provision in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP) that allows students to decline some of the food offered. The goals of OVS are to reduce food waste in the school meals programs while permitting students to decline foods they do not intend to eat. The updated guidance manual for operators utilizing OVS, which is optional at all grade levels for breakfast and required at the senior high school level only for lunch is posted with this MMU. As parts of the NSLP and SBP meal pattern requirements are being phased-in over multiple years, this memorandum provides guidance for School Year (SY) 2013-2014 *only*. The guidance will be revised as needed to reflect new requirements as they are phased-in.

This guidance is intended to clarify the requirements of OVS, specifically related to what students must take in order to have a reimbursable meal.

Below are 5 questions on offer versus serve for you to review.

- 1.) In a 9-12 school, the menu planner offers: 1 cup milk, ½ cup pineapple slices, and a breakfast sandwich (2 oz equivalent bread, egg is uncredited).
 - a. Is this acceptable for offer versus serve?

A student selects her breakfast: milk and breakfast sandwich.

- b. Is this reimbursable?
 - c. How many items is it?
- 2.) In a K-12 school, a student selects his breakfast: 1 cup milk, ½ cup peaches, and a whole grain-rich blueberry muffin (1.5 oz equivalent).
 - a. Is this reimbursable?
 - b. How many items is it?

- 3.) In a 6-8 school, the menu planner offers: 1 cup milk, 1 cup apple juice, cereal (1 oz equivalent) and yogurt (1.0 oz credited).

a. Is this acceptable for offer versus serve?

A student selects her breakfast: 2 cups apple juice and cereal

b. Is this reimbursable?

c. How many items is it?

- 4.) In a 9-12 school, a student selects her lunch: 1 cup milk, 1 cup apples slices, and seasoned rice (1.75 oz equivalent).

a. Is this reimbursable? Why or Why not?

b. What if a student was in grade 5?

- 5.) In a 6-8 school, a student selects his lunch: a sandwich (2 oz equivalent bread and 2 oz equivalent ham) plus a salad from the salad bar (1/4 cup tomatoes, ¼ cup lettuce).

a. Is this reimbursable? Why or Why not?

Answers:

In a 9-12 school, the menu planner offers: 1 cup milk, ½ cup pineapple slices, and a breakfast sandwich (2 oz equivalent bread, egg is uncredited).

a. Is this acceptable for offer versus serve? **Yes**

A student selects her breakfast: milk and breakfast sandwich.

b. Is this reimbursable? **Yes**

c. How many items is it? **3**

- 2.) In a K-12 school, a student selects his breakfast: 1 cup milk, ½ cup peaches, and a whole grain-rich blueberry muffin (1.5 oz equivalent).

a. Is this reimbursable? **Yes**

b. How many items is it? **3**

- 3.) In a 6-8 school, the menu planner offers: 1 cup milk, 1 cup apple juice, cereal (1 oz equivalent) and yogurt (1.0 oz credited).

a. Is this acceptable for offer versus serve? **Yes**

A student selects her breakfast: 2 cups apple juice and cereal

b. Is this reimbursable? **Yes**

c. How many items is it? **3**

- 4.) In a 9-12 school, a student selects her lunch: 1 cup milk, 1 cup apples slices, and seasoned rice (1.75 oz equivalent).

a. Is this reimbursable? Why or Why not? **No - Missing Grain**

- b. What if a student was in grade 5? **Yes**
- 5.) In a 6-8 school, a student selects his lunch: a sandwich (2 oz equivalent bread and 2 oz equivalent ham) plus a salad from the salad bar (1/4 cup tomatoes, ¼ cup lettuce).
- a. Is this reimbursable? Why or Why not? **No- Short on the required ½ cup vegetable**